FRONT LINE™

A MARVEL COMICS® EVENT

CIVIL WAR™

JENKINS

BACHS

LIEBER

WEEKS

IRVING

WATSON

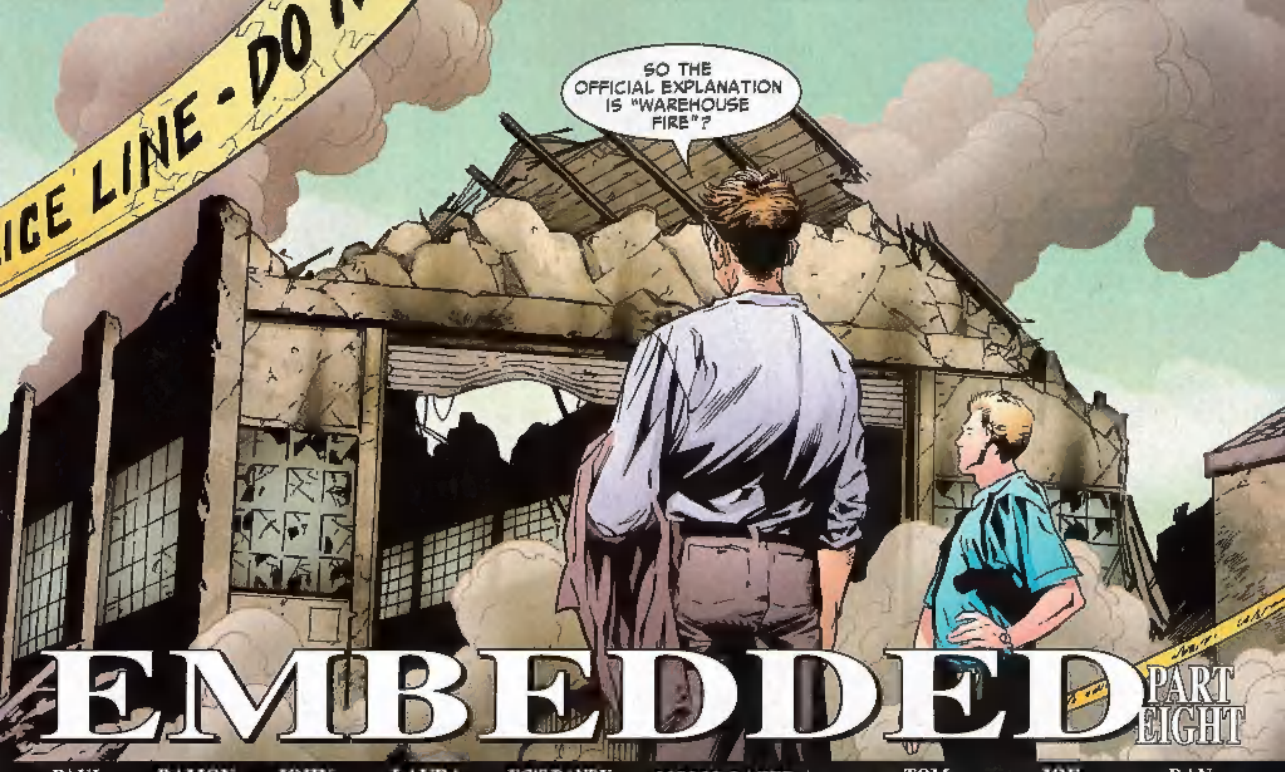
RATED T+

00811

7 59606 05976 8

DIRECT EDITION

$2.99 US $3.75 CAN



EMBEDDED

PART EIGHT

PAUL JENKINS
WRITER

RAMON BACHS
PENCILER

JOHN LUCAS
INKER

LAURA MARTIN
COLORIST

VC'S RANDY GENTILE
LETTERER

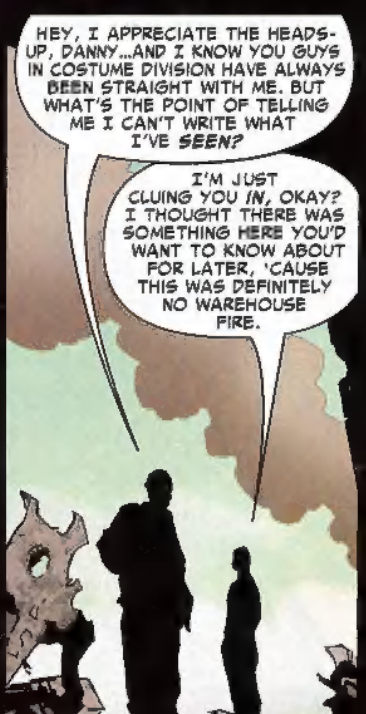
MOLLY LAZER & AUBREY SITTERSON
ASSISTANT EDITORS

TOM BREVOORT
EDITOR

JOE QUESADA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

DAN BUCKLEY
PUBLISHER

THAT'S WHAT WE'RE SAYING FOR RIGHT NOW, BEN. AT LEAST UNTIL WE GET FINISHED HERE.
JUST PROMISE ME YOU'LL KEEP A LID ON THIS THING FOR A COUPLE OF WEEKS, UNLESS YOU'RE DETERMINED TO INVITE TEN TONS OF FIRE AN 'BRIMSTONE DOWN ON ME FROM MY CAPTAIN.


HEY, I APPRECIATE THE HEADS-UP, DANNY...AND I KNOW YOU GUYS IN COSTUME DIVISION HAVE ALWAYS BEEN STRAIGHT WITH ME. BUT WHAT'S THE POINT OF TELLING ME I CAN'T WRITE WHAT I'VE *SEEN?*
I'M JUST CLUING YOU *IN*, OKAY? I THOUGHT THERE WAS SOMETHING HERE YOU'D WANT TO KNOW ABOUT FOR LATER, 'CAUSE THIS WAS DEFINITELY NO WAREHOUSE FIRE.

FRANKLY, WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT IT WAS. ALL I KNOW IS WE HAD S.H.I.E.L.D. CRAWLING AROUND HERE ALL AFTERNOON. RIGHT NOW THEY'RE ARGUING WITH THE D.A.'S OFFICE ABOUT WHO GETS THE CRIME SCENE.
THERE'S SOME KIND OF PROCEDURAL DISAGREEMENT BECAUSE OF WHERE THE DEAD PEOPLE ALL *ORIGINATE* FROM. BUT THE LAW IS THE LAW--THIS IS OUR JURISDICTION.

GIVE ME A SENSE OF WHAT I'M LOOKING AT HERE. YOU GUYS ARE SAYING ALL THE VICTIMS WERE *FOREIGN?*
YUP. SOME KIND OF TERRORIST CELL. ALL ATLANTEANS. WE VERIFIED WITH STARK'S PEOPLE.
NOW IT DOESN'T TAKE A DETECTIVE TO GUESS THEIR *INTENT*, IF YOU CATCH MY DRIFT, BEN. SOME TRUTHS ARE SELF-EVIDENT.
I WORKED NARCOTICS FOR TWO YEARS BEFORE COSTUME DIVISION, AN' ANYONE KNOWS THAT IF YOU FIND A DEAD DEALER THEN THERE'S A *LIVE* ONE NEARBY WITH TWICE AS MANY DRUGS AN' A *SMILE* ON HIS FACE.
POLICE LINE
WAY I HEARD IT, ONE OF THE NEW WARRIORS WHO DIED UP AT STAMFORD WAS SOME PRINCE BIGWIG'S *SISTER* OR SOMETHIN'. SO YOU FIGURE THESE GUYS WERE BEING PUT IN PLACE TO MAKE SOMEONE *PAY*...WE DON'T KNOW *WHO* JUST YET.
EACH ORANGE FLAG REPRESENTS SOME KIND OF UNKNOWN WEAPON OR DEVICE. THESE PEOPLE BROUGHT A LOT OF HARDWARE WITH THEM. I TALKED TO ONE OF THE WEAPONS ANALYSIS GUYS HALF AN HOUR AGO, AN' HE SAYS THEY'RE ATLANTEAN ALL THE WAY--
WHO'D HAVE THE DESIRE AND THE *RESOURCES* FOR SOMETHING LIKE THIS BIG?
I HEARD A *RUMOR.*

RUMOR? WHAT RUMOR?
I'VE SAID TOO MUCH.
NO WAY! I CALL THE UNSUBSTANTIATED RUMOR GAME.
OH, YEAH? WHAT ARE WE PLAYING FOR?
DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU GOT. SPILL IT.
I TALKED TO VANESSA OUT OF DISPATCH. SHE HEARD A LOT OF S.H.I.E.L.D. RADIO TRAFFIC COMING THROUGH OUR SYSTEM THAT DAY.
AND?
THIS WAS DONE BY A FRIEND OF YOURS.
LICE LINE - DO N
DON'T YOU DO THIS TO ME, DANNY GRANVILLE--
OKAY, LOOK... FORENSICS RECOVERED ONE UNEXPLODED DEVICE OF A TYPE AND CHEMICAL CONSTITUENCY THAT CONNECTS IT TO SOMEONE WE KNOW.
WHO?
RHYMES WITH "GREEN GOBLIN."
WHAT DO I WIN?
OSBORN AGAIN? BUT WHY WOULD HE GO AFTER ATLANTEANS? HOW DID HE GET THE INTELLIGENCE ON THEM, FOR ONE THING--?
I GOT ONE MORE ITEM FOR YOU--A REAL KEEPER THIS TIME. BUT YOU GOTTA MAKE IT WORTH MY WHILE.
OKAY. ARE YOU STILL SINGLE?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "YOU SET ME UP ON A BLIND DATE?"
JUST A FRIEND OF MINE. YOU'LL HAVE A GOOD TIME. HE'S A NICE GUY.
LOOK...JUST DO THIS ONE THING FOR ME, SALLY. I OWE YOU ONE, OKAY? HE'LL PICK YOU UP AT NINE.
FINE. BUT THIS HAD BETTER BE BRAD PITT'S SEXY EVIL TWIN, OR A VIRTUAL EQUIVALENT.
AND YOU OWE ME TWO!
HIYA, JERRY. HAVE YOU SEEN DOUG?
THAT'S FUNNY. YOU'RE A FUNNY BROAD.
HIYA, DOUGIE. HOW'S THE SEXIEST MUTANT ON THE PLANET?
I DON'T KNOW. HE WON'T RETURN MY CALLS.

I MEANT *YOU*, YOU STUD. DID I EVER ASK YOU TO LEAVE JERRY AND SWEEP ME AWAY TO TUSCANY?
ALL THE TIME. BUT I CAN'T LEAVE JERRY ALONE. HE SWEATS OUT HIS BUTT CRACK WHEN HE GETS SCARED AT NIGHT.
YOU SAY THE PRETTIEST THINGS. WHO'S YOUR FRIEND?
THAT'S STEVIE... GUY I TOLD YOU ABOUT. I CAN VOUCH FOR STEVIE. HE'S GOT SOMETHING YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN.
I GO OUT BY THE DOCKS, MISS FLOYD. JUST PICKIN' UP UNBROKEN COKE BOTTLES AN' STUFF. SO THE OTHER DAY, ME AN' MY BUD JIMMY, WE SEE THESE TWO GUYS THROWING A BODY INTO THE RIVER.
SMUK
AFTER THE RIPPLES DIE DOWN, I HEAR SOMEONE SAY A NAME. THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT *YOU*.
I ALWAYS HAD GOOD EARS--GOT 'EM FROM MY MOM. SHE COULD HEAR JOE DUGAN HIT A DOUBLE FROM OUTSIDE THE STADIUM IN HER DAY.
I LISTEN A BIT MORE AN' SOMEONE SAYS SOMETHIN' ABOUT MEETING YOU IN A MARKET. SOME UNDERCOVER STUFF, OR SOMETHIN'.
THEN I HEAR ANOTHER NAME: NICK FURY.

NICK FURY? THE S.H.I.E.L.D. GUY? HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE MISSING.
THAT MEAN ANYTHING TO YOU, SALLY?
IT SURE DOES IF THAT WAS THE GUY WHO STUCK A BANANA IN MY BACK AT THE FARMER'S MARKET. IT'S A LONG STORY.

THERE'S MORE. I FOLLOWED THEM BACK TO THEIR HIDEOUT. I CAN SHOW YOU FOR FIFTY BUCKS.
YOU GOTTA PAY FOR THESE WINGS, THOUGH.

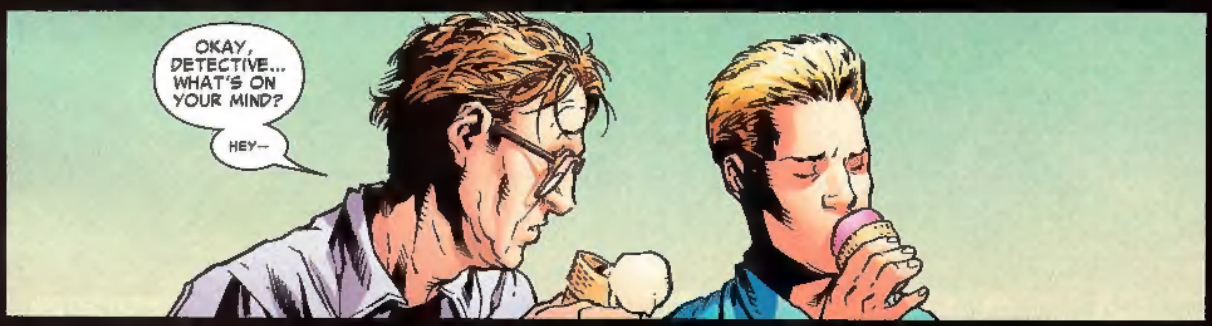
DOUG?
HEY...I'VE KNOWN STEVIE FOR YEARS. HE'S KOSHER.

I FOUND OUT SOMETHING ELSE, TOO: A LITTLE SECRET THEY'VE BEEN KEEPING OVER THERE.
THIRTY BUCKS, PLUS THE WINGS. AND IT'D BETTER BE WORTH IT.

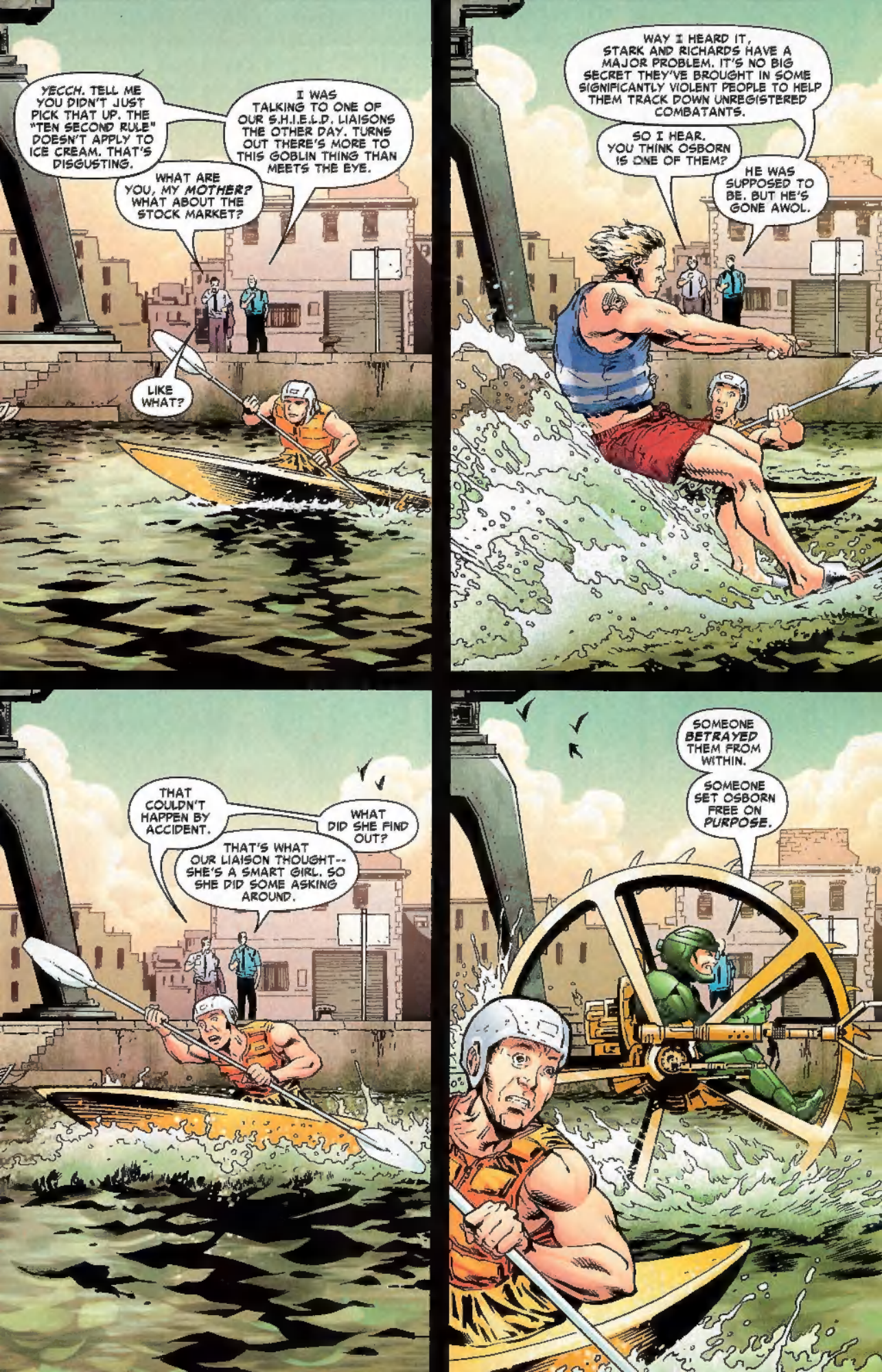
TRUST ME, IT'S WORTH IT.

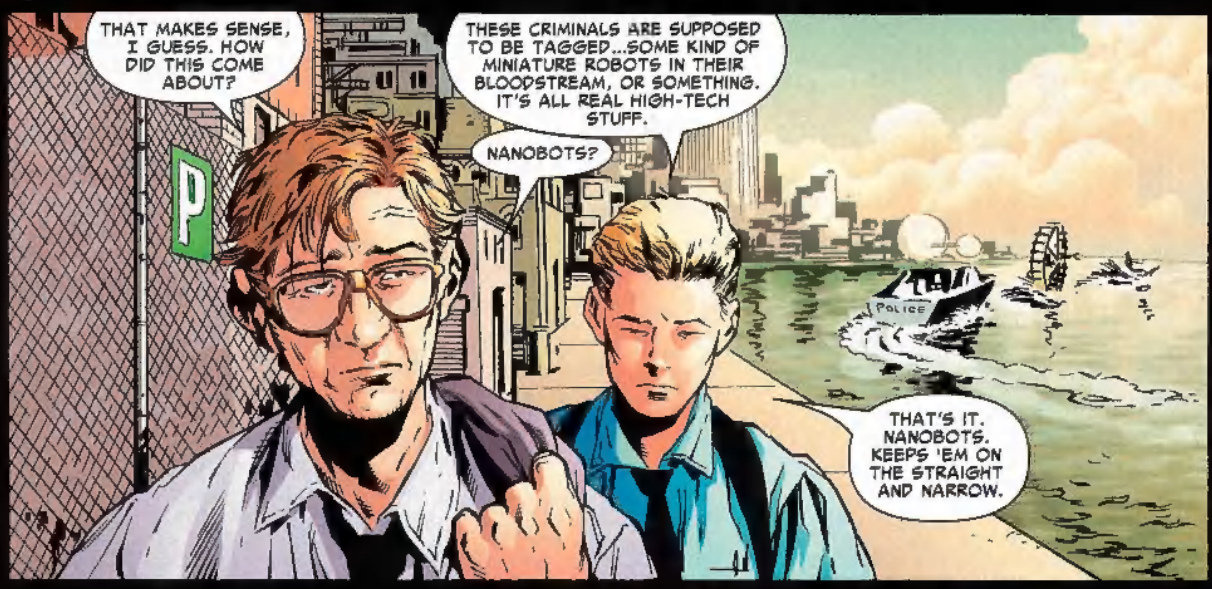
NO WATER SKIING
SO, WHAT'S SALLY LIKE, BEN? IS SHE HOT?
LIKE SATAN'S LITTLE SISTER. NOT MY TYPE, THOUGH.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER?
TROUBLE. THINGS EXPLODE.
I LIKE EXPLOSIONS.

IT'S YOUR FUNERAL.
OR WEDDING, DEPENDING.
FUNERAL. BUT AT LEAST YOU'LL DIE WITH A SMILE ON YOUR FACE.

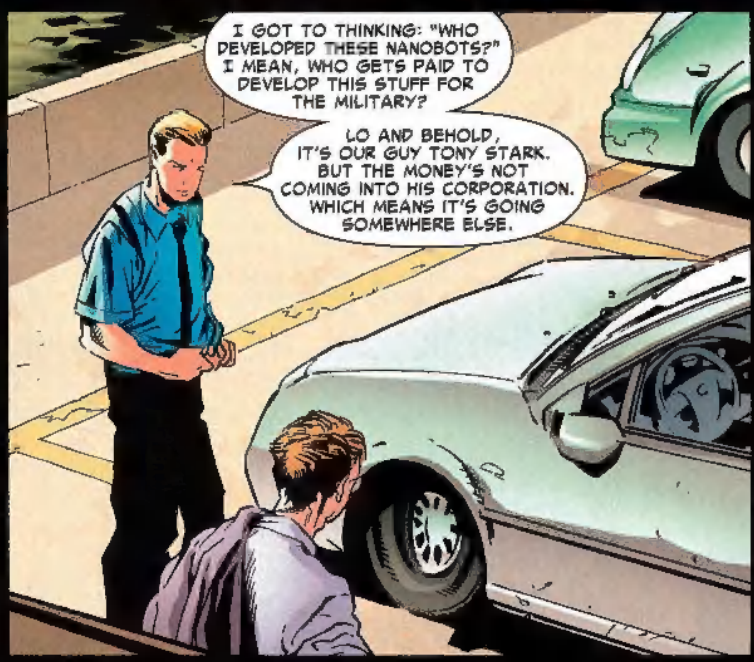

OKAY, DETECTIVE... WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?
HEY--

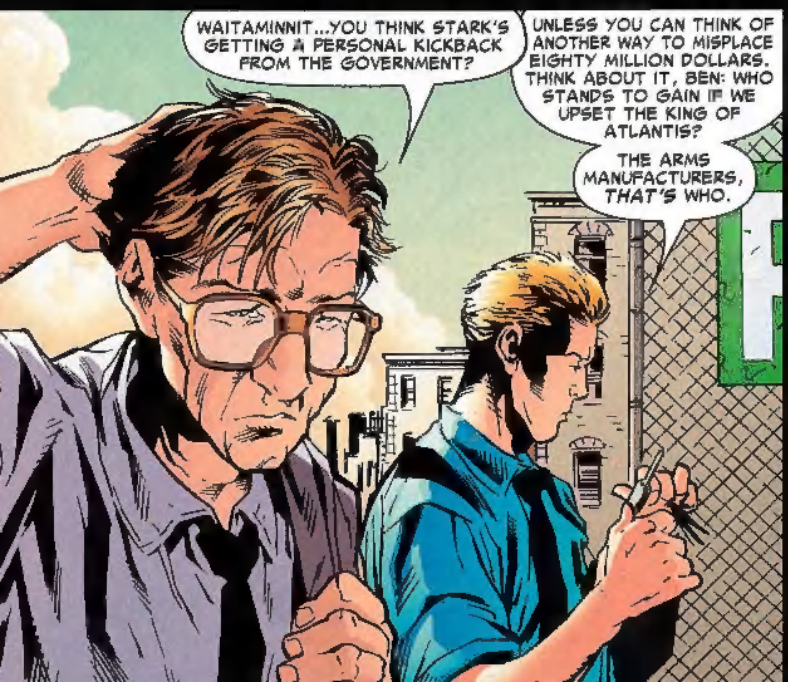
LET ME ASK YOU SOMETHING: YOU EVER PLAY THE STOCK MARKET?


YECCH. TELL ME YOU DIDN'T JUST PICK THAT UP. THE "TEN SECOND RULE" DOESN'T APPLY TO ICE CREAM. THAT'S DISGUSTING.
I WAS TALKING TO ONE OF OUR S.H.I.E.L.D. LIAISONS THE OTHER DAY. TURNS OUT THERE'S MORE TO THIS GOBLIN THING THAN MEETS THE EYE.
WHAT ARE YOU, MY *MOTHER*? WHAT ABOUT THE STOCK MARKET?
LIKE WHAT?
WAY I HEARD IT, STARK AND RICHARDS HAVE A MAJOR PROBLEM. IT'S NO BIG SECRET THEY'VE BROUGHT IN SOME SIGNIFICANTLY VIOLENT PEOPLE TO HELP THEM TRACK DOWN UNREGISTERED COMBATANTS.
SO I HEAR. YOU THINK OSBORN IS ONE OF THEM?
HE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE. BUT HE'S GONE AWOL.
THAT COULDN'T HAPPEN BY ACCIDENT.
WHAT DID SHE FIND OUT?
THAT'S WHAT OUR LIAISON THOUGHT-- SHE'S A SMART GIRL. SO SHE DID SOME ASKING AROUND.
SOMEONE *BETRAYED* THEM FROM WITHIN.
SOMEONE SET OSBORN FREE ON *PURPOSE*.


THAT MAKES SENSE, I GUESS. HOW DID THIS COME ABOUT?
THESE CRIMINALS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE TAGGED...SOME KIND OF MINIATURE ROBOTS IN THEIR BLOODSTREAM, OR SOMETHING. IT'S ALL REAL HIGH-TECH STUFF.
NANOBOTS?
POLICE
THAT'S IT. NANOBOTS. KEEPS 'EM ON THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW.

SO AS FAR AS THEY CAN TELL, SOMEONE IN THE ORGANIZATION MUST HAVE PROGRAMMED OSBORN'S BATCH DIFFERENTLY. THEY'RE FINDING EVIDENCE ON A DAILY BASIS--
WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH THE STOCK MARKET?


I GOT TO THINKING: "WHO DEVELOPED THESE NANOBOTS?" I MEAN, WHO GETS PAID TO DEVELOP THIS STUFF FOR THE MILITARY?
LO AND BEHOLD, IT'S OUR GUY TONY STARK. BUT THE MONEY'S NOT COMING INTO HIS CORPORATION. WHICH MEANS IT'S GOING SOMEWHERE ELSE.

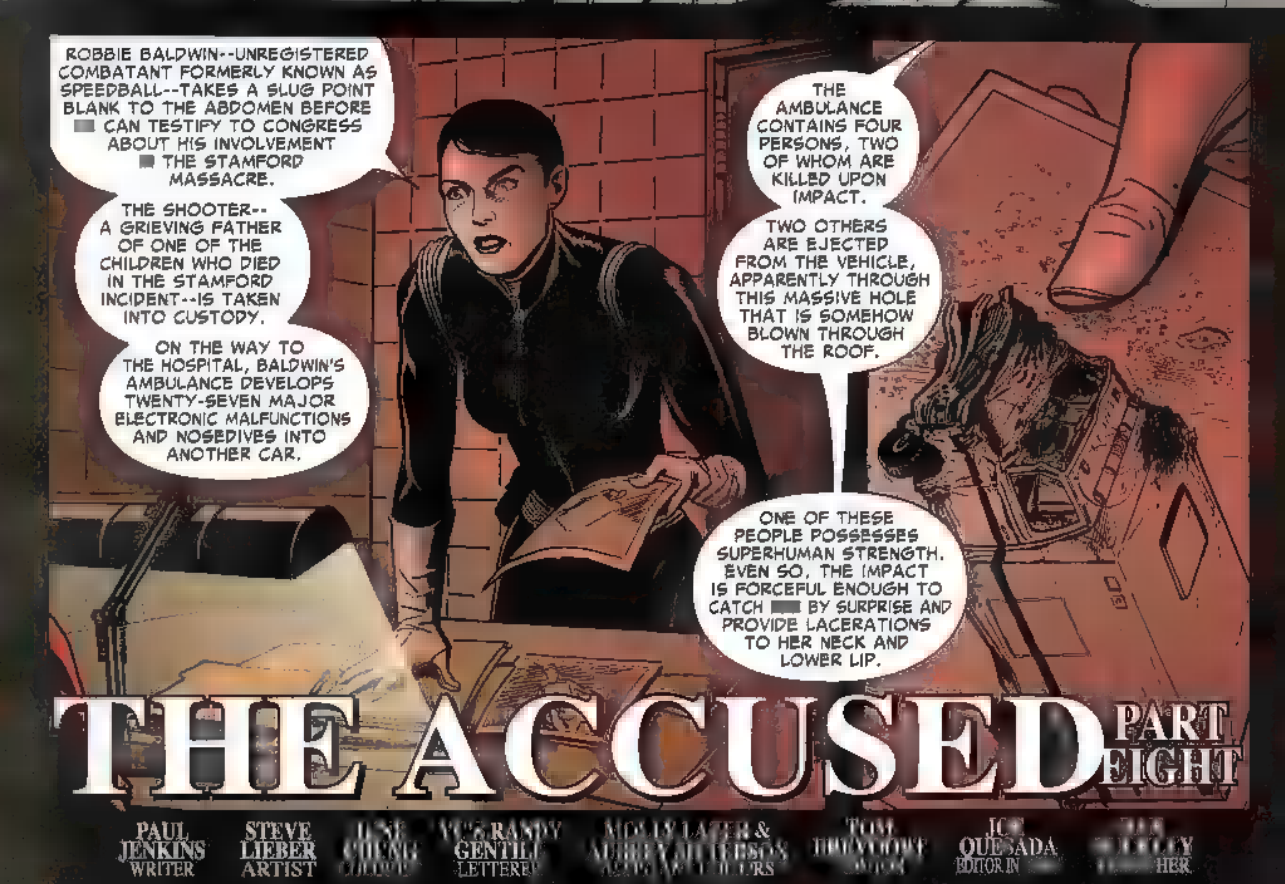

WAITAMINNIT...YOU THINK STARK'S GETTING A PERSONAL KICKBACK FROM THE GOVERNMENT?
UNLESS YOU CAN THINK OF ANOTHER WAY TO MISPLACE EIGHTY MILLION DOLLARS. THINK ABOUT IT, BEN: WHO STANDS TO GAIN IF WE UPSET THE KING OF ATLANTIS?
THE ARMS MANUFACTURERS, *THAT'S* WHO.

WHAT IF THIS WHOLE WAR, THIS WHOLE TIME, WAS ALL ABOUT *MONEY*?

JUST SO YOU KNOW, I'VE GOT MACE.
RELAX. I WON'T HURT YOU.
NO YOU WON'T. BECAUSE I'VE GOT MACE.
I PROMISED DOUGIE I'D WATCH OUT FOR YOU. YOU KNOW DOUG, HE'D NEVER LET YOU COME HERE WITH JUST ANYONE.
I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF, IF I HAVE TO--
MY HERO.
YOU'RE A PRETTY FAIR LADY, MISS FLOYD, IF YOU DON'T MIND ME SAYING SO. I READ THAT MUTIE COLUMN YOU USED TO DO--
THEY'RE NOT "MUTIES," STEVIE.
YEAH, RIGHT... MY FAUX PAS. ANYWAYS...I LIKED IT. YOU [redacted] PRETTY FAIR.
SO WHY [redacted] YOU LOOKING FOR THESE UNDERGROUND GUYS FOR ANYWAY? THEY OWE YOU MONEY?
NO. I OWE THEM. IS THIS IT?
OVER THERE. SEE?

THAT LITTLE SHED?
THAT'S WHERE THEY WENT IN. WE GOTTA BE CAREFUL.
BY THE WAY...YOU KNOW THEY DON'T SELL COKE ■ GLASS BOTTLES ANYMORE, RIGHT?
HUH?
NOTHING. IT'S JUST KINDA HARD TO BREAK A PLASTIC BOTTLE.
PLUS, JOE DUGAN: HE PLAYED WITH RUTH AND GEHRIG.
SO WHAT?
SO YOUR MOM'S OLD.
KNOCK KNOCK
ANYONE HOME?

I'M JUST SAYING. AT LEAST YOU COULD HAVE PICKED SOMEONE FROM THE SIXTIES--
HEY--!
I'M SORRY. I'M NOT A GOOD LIAR.
PROMISE YOU WON'T MACE ME.
TO BE CONTINUED...


ROBBIE BALDWIN--UNREGISTERED COMBATANT FORMERLY KNOWN AS SPEEDBALL--TAKES A SLUG POINT BLANK TO THE ABDOMEN BEFORE [redacted] CAN TESTIFY TO CONGRESS ABOUT HIS INVOLVEMENT [redacted] THE STAMFORD MASSACRE.
THE SHOOTER--A GRIEVING FATHER OF ONE OF THE CHILDREN WHO DIED IN THE STAMFORD INCIDENT--IS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY.
ON THE WAY TO THE HOSPITAL, BALDWIN'S AMBULANCE DEVELOPS TWENTY-SEVEN MAJOR ELECTRONIC MALFUNCTIONS AND NOSEDIVES INTO ANOTHER CAR.
THE AMBULANCE CONTAINS FOUR PERSONS, TWO OF WHOM ARE KILLED UPON IMPACT.
TWO OTHERS ARE EJECTED FROM THE VEHICLE, APPARENTLY THROUGH THIS MASSIVE HOLE THAT IS SOMEHOW BLOWN THROUGH THE ROOF.
ONE OF THESE PEOPLE POSSESSES SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH. EVEN SO, THE IMPACT IS FORCEFUL ENOUGH TO CATCH [redacted] BY SURPRISE AND PROVIDE LACERATIONS TO HER NECK AND LOWER LIP.

THE ACCUSED PART EIGHT

PAUL JENKINS WRITER
STEVE LIEBER ARTIST
[redacted] COLORIST
[redacted] & RANDY GENTILE LETTERERS
[redacted] & [redacted] COVER ARTISTS
TOM [redacted] EDITOR
JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF
[redacted] PUBLISHER

THE SECOND SURVIVOR IS THOUGHT TO POSSESS NO SUCH POWERS, BUT IS FOUND SIXTY YARDS AWAY ON A GRASS VERGE, COMPLETELY UNHARMED.
UNLESS YOU COUNT THE GAPING WOUND IN HIS STOMACH CAUSED BY A GUNSHOT TWELVE MINUTES EARLIER.
SO WHAT I WANT TO KNOW, MISS WALTERS, IS WHAT THE HELL [redacted] OUT THERE?

I DON'T KNOW.
I WISH I COULD BELIEVE THAT.
IF I DID, YOU'D BE THE FIRST TO HEAR ABOUT IT, DIRECTOR HILL.
REALLY?
SEE, WHAT I THINK, MISS WALTERS, IS THAT YOU KNOW A LOT MORE THAN YOU'RE WILLING TO SAY ABOUT THE STATE OF YOUR CLIENT.
YOU'RE ENTITLED TO YOUR OPINION.
SO ARE YOU, AS LONG AS THAT OPINION DOESN'T PUT YOU IN JEOPARDY OF BREAKING THE LAW.
THANKS FOR THE LEGAL ADVICE.
IT'S NOT ADVICE. IT'S A DIRECT THREAT. NOW WHAT HAPPENED?
"ROBBIE WAS IN A LOT OF PAIN. I REMEMBER HE WAS MOANING EVERY TIME WE WENT OVER A BUMP. HE WAS SLIPPING IN AND OUT OF CONSCIOUSNESS... KEPT CALLING FOR HIS MOM.
"THERE WAS SOME KIND OF [redacted] BUILDUP...BUT IT CAME FROM ALL AROUND.
"I DIDN'T SEE THE FLASH OF LIGHT COMING. MY RETINAS SHOULD BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND DIRECT EXPOSURE TO AN ATOMIC BLAST FROM TWO MILES AWAY.
"BUT WHATEVER THAT FLASH WAS, IT BLINDED ME IN AN INSTANT.
"I DIDN'T SEE ANY OF THE THINGS THAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT.
"APPARENTLY, ONE OF THEM WAS ANOTHER CAR."

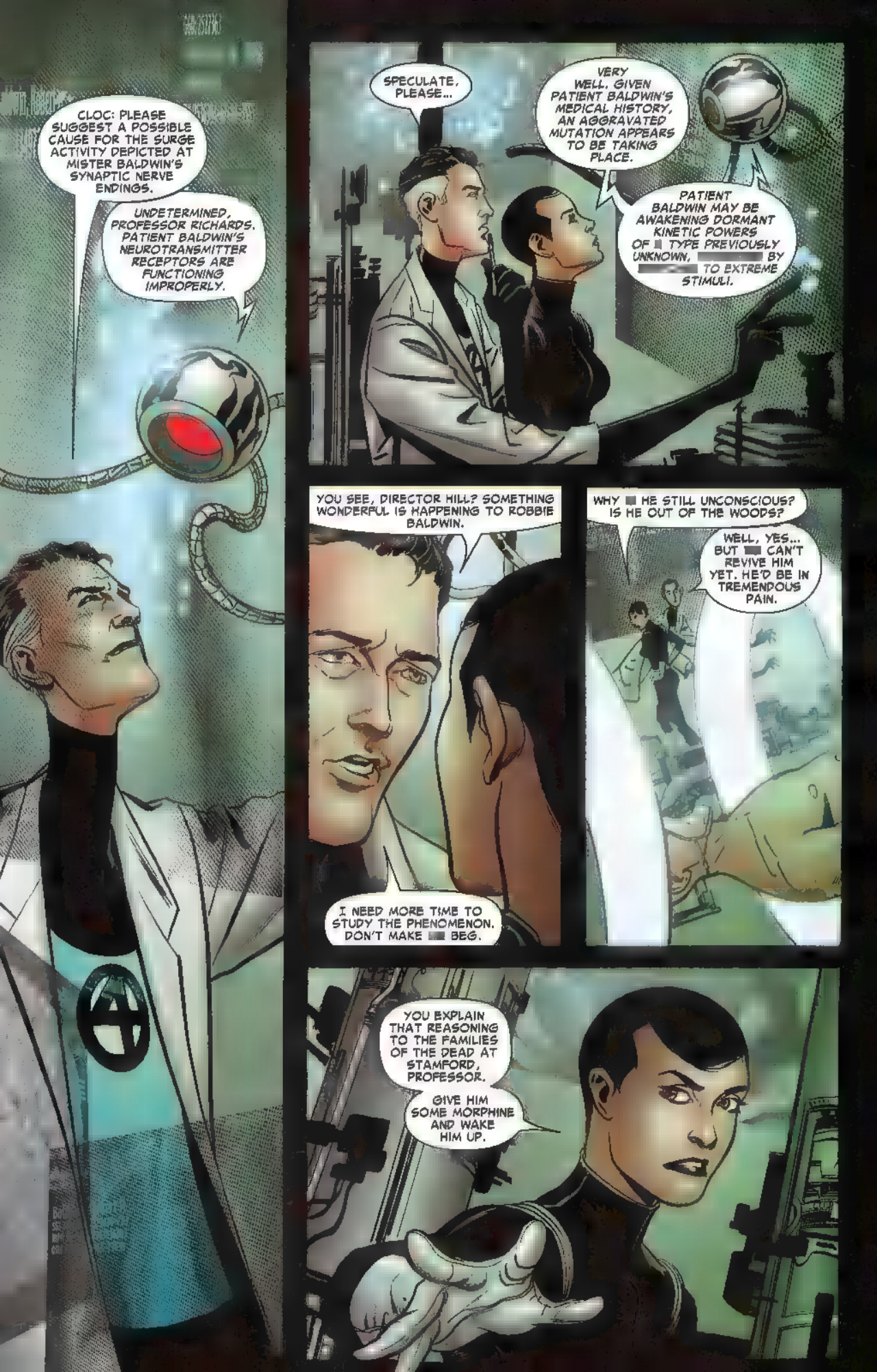
WHICH [redacted] I HAVE TO SERIOUSLY QUESTION YOUR VERSION OF EVENTS, MISS WALTERS, BECAUSE I SERIOUSLY DOUBT AN IMPACT WITH A CAR WOULD SO MUCH AS CAUSE A DENT IN YOUR FINGERNAIL, LET ALONE YOUR PRETTY FACE--
I WAS *BLINDED*. [redacted] I THINK SOMETHING SIPHONED MY POWERS. OTHERWISE, I WOULDN'T HAVE CUT MY LIP. I'LL RECOVER, BUT--
WAS IT BALDWIN?
I DON'T *KNOW!*
"MISS WALTERS, [redacted] HAVE ANOTHER SEVEN UNIFORMED OFFICERS IN THE HOSPITAL SUFFERING FROM SEVERE ELECTRICAL BURNS.
"ONE OFFICER DESCRIBES BEING [redacted] BY A MASSIVE FLASH OF LIGHT COMING FROM *ABOVE* THE AMBULANCE."
SO TELL ME: WHO TRIED TO BREAK BALDWIN OUT OF JAIL? WAS THIS PREMEDITATED, OR JUST A WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY?
WHAT? ARE YOU SERIOUSLY TRYING TO SAY YOU'RE GOING TO TRY HOLDING ME HERE ON *THAT?*
I KNOW YOU'RE STRONG ENOUGH TO WALK OUT OF [redacted] A STRAIGHT LINE, MISS WALTERS, AT ANY MOMENT YOU CHOOSE. BUT I HAVE ANOTHER THREE DAYS OF YOUR UNDIVIDED ATTENTION [redacted] THIS REGARDS AN UNREGISTERED COMBATANT.
SO GO AHEAD. GIVE [redacted] A REASON TO HOLD YOU AS AN ACCESSORY TO THE TWO EXTRA COUNTS OF INVOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER I'M ADDING TO MISTER BALDWIN'S CHARGES.

SHE'S LYING. SHE KNOWS SOMETHING.
I'VE GOT MORE BAD NEWS, DIRECTOR HILL. JUST DON'T SHOOT THE MESSENGER--
I'M NOT MAKING ANY PROMISES. GO AHEAD.
OKAY, UH...WE'VE RECEIVED WORD THERE'S GOING TO BE A CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY INTO BALDWIN'S SHOOTING. THEY WANT TO KNOW [redacted] WE CREATED AN INTENTIONAL SECURITY BREACH TO STOP HIM FROM TESTIFYING.
THAT'S CRAZY! WE ASKED HIM TO TESTIFY!
ALSO, SOME NEWS ON OUR SHOOTER... A MISTER JAMES STRICKER-- FATHER OF [redacted] FIRST-GRADER WHO DIED AT STAMFORD. THEY'RE GOING TO CHARGE HIM WITH ATTEMPTED MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE--
WHAT? LET ME SEE THAT!
THEY'RE OUT OF THEIR MINDS. THIS IS JUST PLAYING INTO THE HANDS OF THE ANTI-REGISTRATION CROWD.
IT, UH...IT GETS WORSE. BALDWIN'S OLD CELL MATE--GUY BY THE [redacted] OF HICKEY...HE JUST UP AND LEFT LAST NIGHT.
[redacted] MEAN JUST LIKE THAT...POOF! WE'RE CHECKING INTO THIS GUY'S BACKGROUND RIGHT NOW. IT COULD BE A COINCIDENCE.
I DON'T BELIEVE [redacted] COINCIDENCES. I WANT THIS HICKEY GUY BACK [redacted] BARS, AN' I WANT TO KNOW WHAT [redacted] KNOWS.
AND NEXT TIME, TRY TO ADD IN SOME GOOD NEWS.

I'LL DO MY [redacted], DIRECTOR.
INCIDENTALLY, WERE YOU MADE [redacted] THE SENTRY LOANED US THIS DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT?
SEND HIM A PERSONAL MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM ME. REMIND HIM ONCE AGAIN THAT I'D LIKE TO SEE MORE OF HIS DIRECT INVOLVEMENT SO [redacted] CAN WRAP OUR OPERATIONS A LOT QUICKER.
WILL DO, MA'AM. ALSO, THE PRESIDENT HAS ASKED FOR A [redacted] TOMORROW AT OH-EIGHT-HUNDRED. HE WANTS A FULL RUNDOWN ON THE LAST FORTY-EIGHT HOURS.
OH-EIGHT-HUNDRED? DOES THAT MAN EVEN SLEEP?
FINE. BUT MAKE SURE HE UNDERSTANDS [redacted] MIGHT [redacted] A [redacted] MINUTES LATE. IT'S A LONG WAY FROM HERE TO WHEREVER HE'S ON VACATION.
HOW'S OUR PATIENT, PROFESSOR?
HE'LL LIVE.
BUT HE WON'T ENJOY IT MUCH.

I DOUBT HE'S ENJOYING IT MUCH RIGHT NOW. ANY PERMANENT DAMAGE?
WE'RE NOT SURE YET. BUT WE ARE WITNESSING A DEVELOPMENT.
GIVE ME SOMETHING IN SMALL WORDS THAT I CAN RELAY TO THE PRESIDENT, DR. RICHARDS.
HOW DOES "HYPER-KINETIC PROXIMAL NEUROPATHY WITH QUASI-RANDOM TAUTOMERIZATION" SOUND?
LIKE IT'LL FRY OUR COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S BRAIN. TRY ENGLISH...AND START FROM THE BEGINNING.
TAKE A LOOK [redacted] YOURSELF.

THE PATIENT [redacted] SUFFERING FROM A VERY SIGNIFICANT ABDOMINAL WOUND, COMPLICATED BY THE TYPE OF BULLET.
THE HANDGUN WAS OLD...HADN'T [redacted] FIRED IN YEARS. UNFORTUNATELY FOR ROBBIE, THAT [redacted] THE SLUG FRAGMENTED SOON AFTER ENTRY FROM ALMOST POINT-BLANK RANGE.
SOME OF THE SMALLER PIECES [redacted] NOW PRESSING AGAINST HIS SPINAL CORD.
NOW THIS IS THE PATH THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE TO TAKE TO GET BACK *OUT* AGAIN. ONE [redacted] TWO FRAGMENTS ACTUALLY LODGED INSIDE AN INVERTEBRAL DISC IN HIS LUMBAR REGION.
THERE'S [redacted] PROCEDURE THAT GUARANTEES SUCCESS, DIRECTOR HILL. WE COULD CRIPPLE [redacted] EVEN *KILL* HIM WITH [redacted] MICROSCOPIC MISTAKE.
WHAT ABOUT THESE BLOBS... WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF ALL THAT?
THEY APPEAR TO BE ONE OF *TWO* THINGS:
ONE--THEY'RE SOME KIND OF BIOELECTRICAL ACTIVITY SURROUNDING HIS [redacted] ENDINGS. THAT ACTIVITY [redacted] LITERALLY [redacted] BIOELECTRICAL ENERGY FROM HIS SURROUNDINGS AND [redacted] IT INTO HIS NERVOUS SYSTEM.
TWO--[redacted] HAVE NO IDEA.


CLOC: PLEASE SUGGEST A POSSIBLE CAUSE FOR THE SURGE ACTIVITY DEPICTED AT MISTER BALDWIN'S SYNAPTIC NERVE ENDINGS.
UNDETERMINED, PROFESSOR RICHARDS. PATIENT BALDWIN'S NEUROTRANSMITTER RECEPTORS ARE FUNCTIONING IMPROPERLY.
SPECULATE, PLEASE...
VERY WELL. GIVEN PATIENT BALDWIN'S MEDICAL HISTORY, AN AGGRAVATED MUTATION APPEARS TO BE TAKING PLACE.
PATIENT BALDWIN MAY BE AWAKENING DORMANT KINETIC POWERS OF [redacted] TYPE PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN, [redacted] BY [redacted] TO EXTREME STIMULI.
YOU SEE, DIRECTOR HILL? SOMETHING WONDERFUL IS HAPPENING TO ROBBIE BALDWIN.
I NEED MORE TIME TO STUDY THE PHENOMENON. DON'T MAKE [redacted] BEG.
WHY [redacted] HE STILL UNCONSCIOUS? IS HE OUT OF THE WOODS?
WELL, YES... BUT [redacted] CAN'T REVIVE HIM YET. HE'D BE IN TREMENDOUS PAIN.
YOU EXPLAIN THAT REASONING TO THE FAMILIES OF THE DEAD AT STAMFORD, PROFESSOR.
GIVE HIM SOME MORPHINE AND WAKE HIM UP.

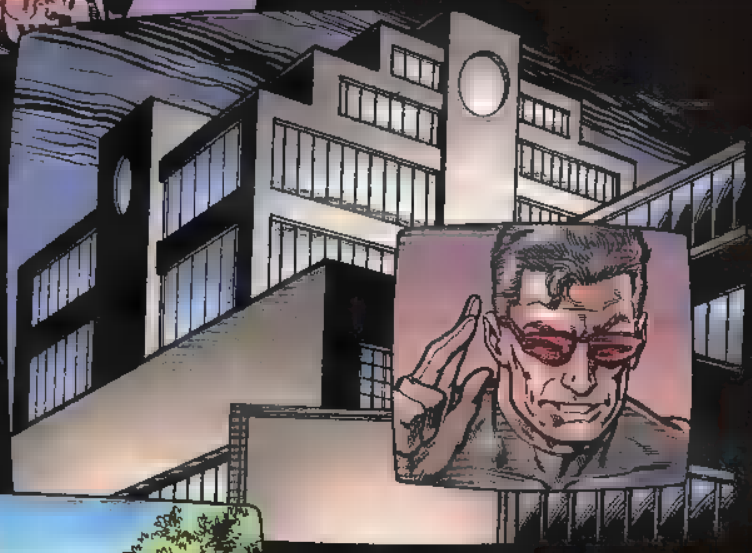
WE CAN'T DO THAT! [redacted] WON'T BE [redacted] ANY STATE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS--
I DON'T PLAN ON ASKING HIM ANY.
TOMORROW AT OH-EIGHT-HUNDRED HOURS, I'M GOING TO INFORM THE PRESIDENT THAT AN UNREGISTERED COMBATANT WAS RESCUED FROM [redacted] LIFE-THREATENING SITUATION BY FOUR HEROIC POLICE OFFICERS, AT RISK TO THEIR OWN SAFETY.
I'M GOING TO TELL HIM THE PRISONER IS FINE, AND WILL [redacted] OFFERED NO SPECIAL TREATMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ADMINISTRATION PROTOCOLS.
HE'S GOING TO TURN THAT INTO POLITICS, WHEREBY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL [redacted] REMINDED THAT WE ARE JUST [redacted] FAIR, [redacted] TO OUR UNREGISTERED COMBATANT ENEMIES.
THEY'LL PROBABLY TALK ABOUT IT ON THE HILL FOR ANOTHER COUPLE OF YEARS UNTIL THE PRESIDENT SAYS GOODBYE AFTER THE NEXT ELECTION.
THEN, WE'LL START ALL OVER AGAIN.
AND IN THE MEANTIME, MISTER BALDWIN WILL [redacted] BACK IN PRISON.
WHICH [redacted] EXACTLY WHERE HE HAS CHOSEN TO *BE*.
TO BE CONTINUED...

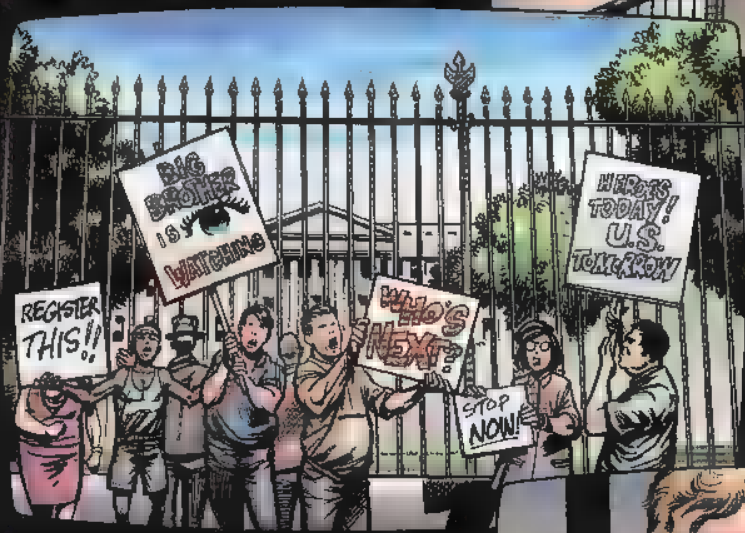
AS CONFLICT SEEN RISE IN OF SKIRMISHES AND UNREGISTERED COMBATANTS:

"THREE CIVILIANS AFTER THE FORMER COSTUMED AS CYBERMANCER WAS APPREHENDED DURING AN ATTEMPT TO A BANK HEIST...

ACTOR, SIMON WILLIAMS--ALSO AS MAN--REMAINS STABLE A DOCKLAND LATE THURSDAY SENT SHOWERS OF DEBRIS AS FAR AWAY AS NEW JERSEY.

TO INVESTIGATE SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE



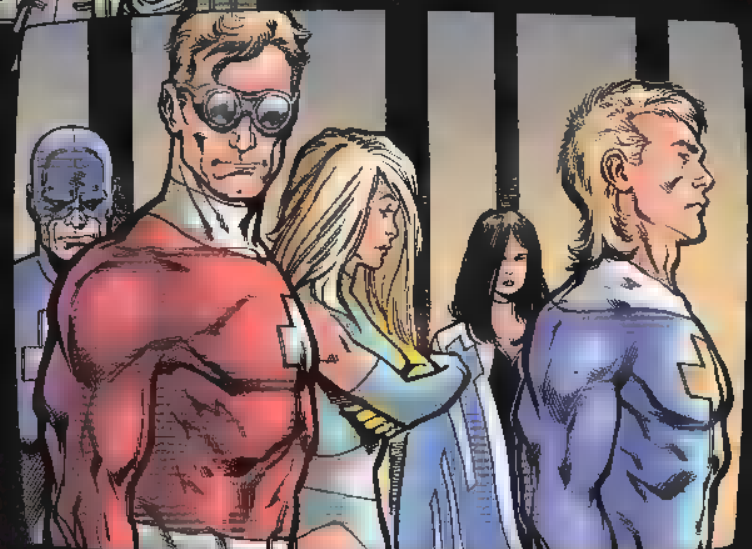


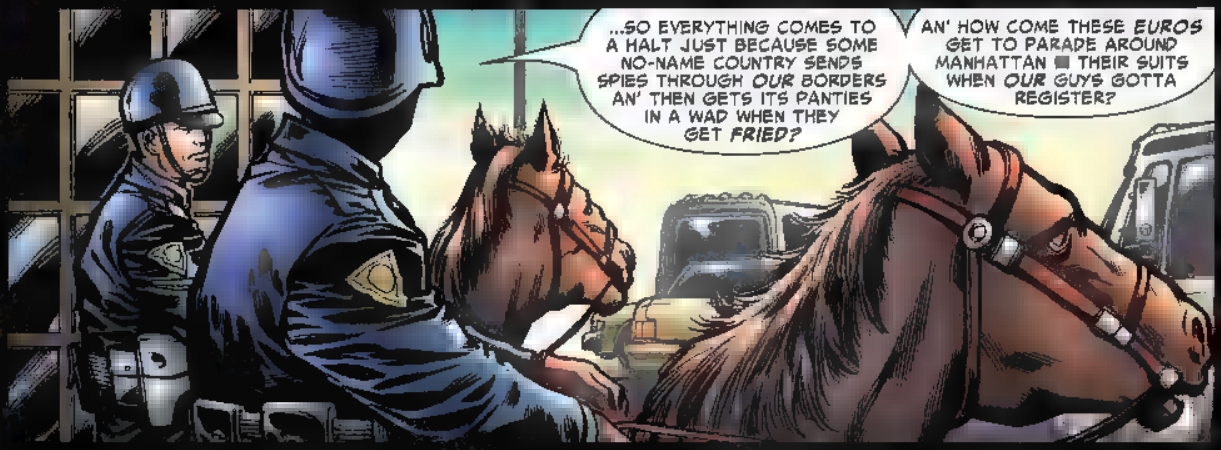
"...WHILE A LIBERTIES HILL TO THEIR CONCERNS OVER OF THE

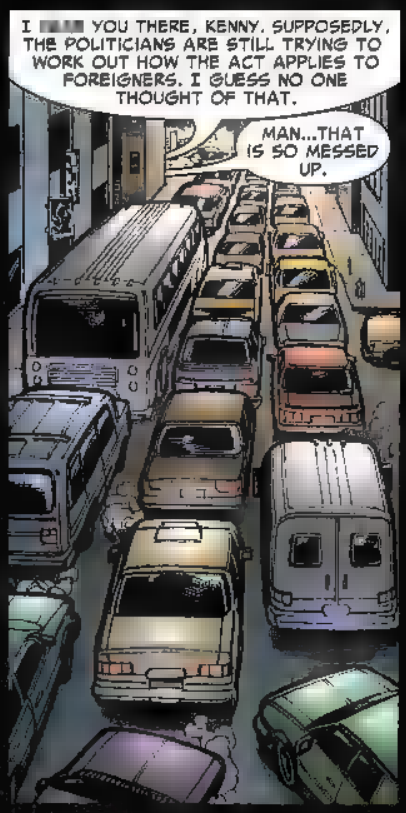
SPOKESMAN THE ORGANIZATION PENSIONS DECLINED COMMENT ON THE PREFERRING ON ISSUE HEROES'

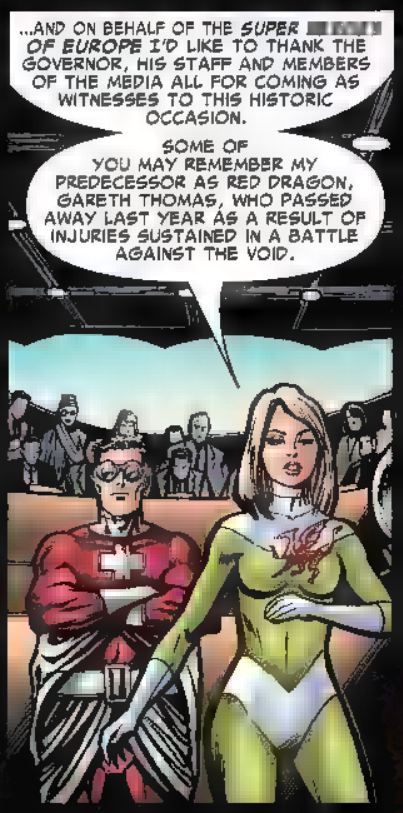
A DELEGATION VISITING FROM THE SUB-AQUATIC ATLANTIS IS THE WHARF WITHIN

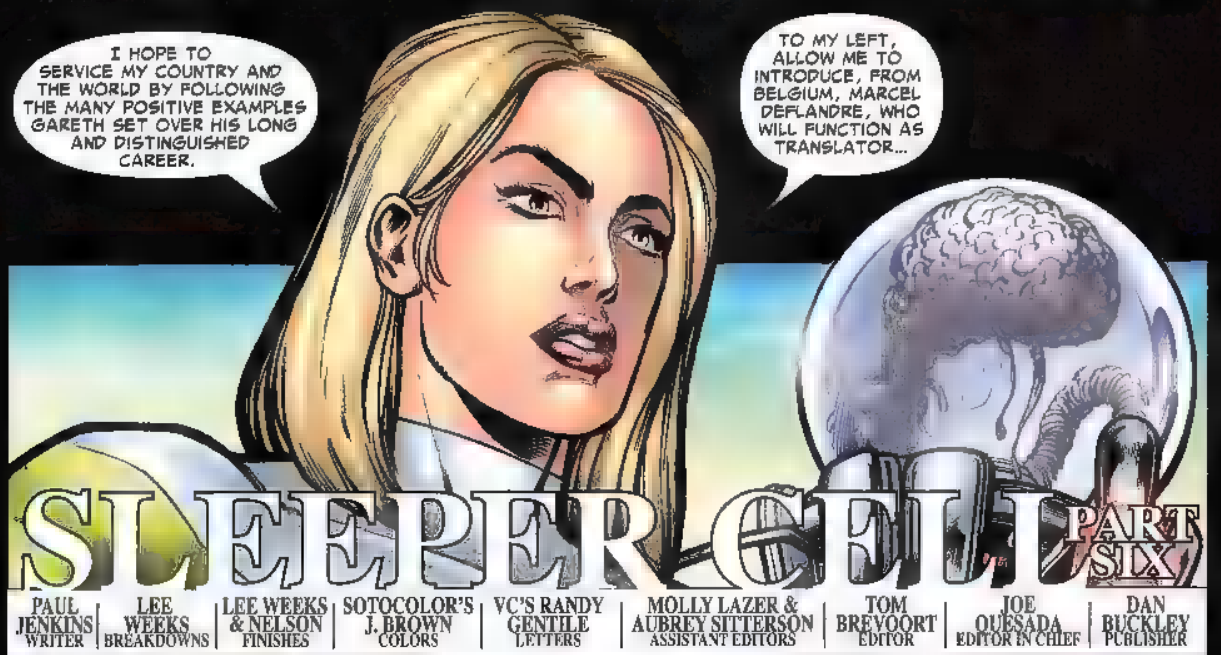
"IN A THE EUROPEAN AGENCY, S.H.E., ATLANTEANS ARE TO RECENT IN WHAT IS INCREASINGLY DESCRIBED AS AN CIVIL




...SO EVERYTHING COMES TO A HALT JUST BECAUSE SOME NO-NAME COUNTRY SENDS SPIES THROUGH *OUR* BORDERS AN' THEN GETS ITS PANTIES IN A WAD WHEN THEY GET *FRIED?*
AN' HOW COME THESE *EUROS* GET TO PARADE AROUND MANHATTAN [redacted] THEIR SUITS WHEN *OUR* GUYS GOTTA REGISTER?


I [redacted] YOU THERE, KENNY. SUPPOSEDLY, THE POLITICIANS ARE STILL TRYING TO WORK OUT HOW THE ACT APPLIES TO FOREIGNERS. I GUESS NO ONE THOUGHT OF THAT.
MAN...THAT IS SO MESSED UP.


...AND ON BEHALF OF THE *SUPER [redacted] OF EUROPE* I'D LIKE TO THANK THE GOVERNOR, HIS STAFF AND MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA ALL FOR COMING AS WITNESSES TO THIS HISTORIC OCCASION.
SOME OF YOU MAY REMEMBER MY PREDECESSOR AS RED DRAGON, GARETH THOMAS, WHO PASSED AWAY LAST YEAR AS A RESULT OF INJURIES SUSTAINED IN A BATTLE AGAINST THE VOID.


I HOPE TO SERVICE MY COUNTRY AND THE WORLD BY FOLLOWING THE MANY POSITIVE EXAMPLES GARETH SET OVER HIS LONG AND DISTINGUISHED CAREER.
TO MY LEFT, ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE, FROM BELGIUM, MARCEL DEFLANDRE, WHO WILL FUNCTION AS TRANSLATOR...
SLEEPER CELL
PART SIX

PAUL JENKINS WRITER | LEE WEEKS BREAKDOWNS | LEE WEEKS & NELSON FINISHES | SOTOCOLOR'S J. BROWN COLORS | VC'S RANDY GENTILE LETTERS | MOLLY LAZER & AUBREY SITTERSON ASSISTANT EDITORS | TOM BREVOORT EDITOR | JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF | DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER

THE ATLANTEAN DELEGATION IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IMMINENTLY. THEY HAVE REQUESTED A PUBLIC FORUM TO AIR THEIR GRIEVANCES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ATLANTEAN CUSTOM.
I HARDLY NEED TO [redacted]MIND YOU OF THE DELICATE NATURE OF THESE DISCUSSIONS, SO PLEASE KEEP YOUR QUESTIONS TO A MINIMUM IF YOU WANT TO GET HOME BY NIGHTFALL.
UH.. [redacted] DRAGON, [redacted] WILLIAMS FROM THE POST: CAN YOU COMMENT ON WHETHER THIS HISTORIC VISIT TO OUR SHORES IS NO MORE THAN A GLORIFIED PRISONER EXCHANGE AFTER RUMORS OF AN INCIDENT INVOLVING ATLANTEAN AGENTS--
PRESS
THEY CONSIDERED THEMSELVES *MISSIONARIES*, MIKE. THIS WAS NO MORE THAN A FACT-FINDING MISSION. THERE WAS NOTHING SINISTER ABOUT THESE PEOPLE BEING HERE. THEY'RE SIMPLY ASKING FOR THE RETURN OF THEIR CITIZENS.
THE ATLANTEAN STATE RELIGION [redacted] BASED UPON INTERACTION WITH A LIVING ENVIRONMENT, MUCH LIKE AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL CULTURE--
HEY...OVER THERE!

I DON'T GET IT...DOESN'T THIS ADMINISTRATION HAVE A POLICY OF NOT NEGOTIATING WITH TERRORISTS?
DEPENDS. ONE MAN'S TERRORIST IS ANOTHER MAN'S FREEDOM FIGHTER.
AMBASSADOR GOVAN, ON BEHALF OF S.H.E. AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY'S HERO ORGANIZATION, I WELCOME YOU TO THE SHORES OF THIS FINE CITY.
I AM AUTHORIZED TO ACT AS MEDIATOR BY THIS COUNTRY'S FOREIGN SECRETARY, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING YOUR CONCERNS.
WOW. DID I HEAR THAT RIGHT OR DID WE JUST KISS THEIR BUTTS?
I TALKED WITH OUR FOREIGN AFFAIRS EXPERT--WE'RE ON A KNIFE-EDGE WITH THESE GUYS. LAST THING WE CAN AFFORD IS ANOTHER FRONT IN THE WAR. HEY...EVEN THE INHUMANS ARE MAD AT US RIGHT NOW.
THANK YOU, AMBASSADOR. I'D LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR FORUM, SPECIFICALLY TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE OF YOUR MISSING CITIZENS. YOU HAVE THE FLOOR.

AMBASSADOR GOVAN EXPRESSES HIS GRATITUDE FOR THIS HASTILY ARRANGED FORUM.
THE AMBASSADOR ALSO WISHES TO COMMENT ON RECENT REPORTS OF ATLANTEAN CITIZENS DISCOVERED AND ATTACKED, UNPROVOKED. THIS WAS, IN FACT, A PEACEFUL MISSION DESIGNED TO STUDY AND UNDERSTAND HUMAN CULTURE.
BILL PRICE, DAILY BUGLE: AMBASSADOR GOVAN, WHAT DO YOU SAY TO ALLEGATIONS THAT ATLANTEAN INTERFERENCE IN OUR REGION HAS DESTABILIZED THE SITUATION WITHIN THE UNITED STATES?
IS IT FAIR TO SAY YOUR INVOLVEMENT IS LARGELY CATALYZED BY THE RECENT DEATH OF YOUR PRINCE NAMOR'S COUSIN AT STAMFORD?
THE AMBASSADOR ONCE AGAIN REITERATES THAT ANY ATLANTEAN PRESENCE HERE ON THE SHORES OF YOUR SOVEREIGN NATION IS MERELY FOR THE PURPOSES OF STUDY--
HEY, AMBASSADOR! I HAVE A QUESTION!
AND MY QUESTION IS THIS...
AH-HEHH-HAHH...
...HOW FAST CAN A FISH MOVE ON DRY LAND?
BLAM!

OH MY GOD...THAT'S OSBORN! THAT'S NORMAN OSBORN!
GET THE ATLANTEANS UNDER COVER! NOW!
AND THE ANSWER IS: "NOT FAST ENOUGH!"
HEHEHEHA!
GRRRR
AMBASSADOR GOVAN... YOU MUST BELIEVE US... THIS WASN'T OUR DOING...
...IT WAS A MISTAKE...

AH-HEHH... YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE ME...
HH-UHH... HEHH...
...I'M NOT WELL. I'M SICK.
OH, GOD... AH-HECHH
KAFF
OH, GOD...
I DIDN'T DO IT, I SWEAR.

[illegible], on October [illegible] 1642, [illegible] the English [illegible]ar.

Royalist [illegible] in a massive skirmish on [illegible] Warwickshire. [illegible] combatants were [illegible] with [illegible] or [illegible]'s end [illegible] dead [illegible]. The [illegible] looted for clothes and [illegible] and [illegible] on [illegible].

[illegible] to [illegible] of [illegible] replayed again and [illegible] in [illegible] skies [illegible]. King Charles [illegible] became intrigued [illegible] weeks [illegible] the [illegible] he sent [illegible] [illegible] interrogate witnesses.

To his alarm, his men returned, ashen-faced, to confirm that they themselves had seen the grisly battle still raging in the sky. In fact, they had even witnessed the deaths of former friends and colleagues as the battle raged in th[illegible].

According to local legend, the Battle of Edgehill continues to replay in the sky each year on the anniversary of [illegible].

THE FIGHTING MAN SHALL FROM THE SUN
TAKE WARMTH, AND LIFE FROM THE GLOWING EARTH;
SPEED WITH THE LIGHT-FOOT WINDS TO RUN,
AND WITH THE TREES TO NEWER BIRTH;
AND FIND, WHEN FIGHTING SHALL [illegible] DONE,
GREAT REST, AND FULLNESS AFTER DEARTH.
PAUL JENKINS WRITER
FRAZER IRVING ARTIST
VC'S RANDY GENTILE LETTERS
MOLLY LAZER & AUBREY SITTERSON ASSISTANT EDITORS
TOM BREVOORT EDITOR
JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF
DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER

THE BLACKBIRD SINGS TO HIM, "BROTHER, BROTHER, IF THIS BE THE LAST SONG YOU SHALL SING, SING WELL, FOR YOU MAY NOT SING ANOTHER; BROTHER, SING."
AND WHEN THE BURNING MOMENT BREAKS, AND ALL THINGS ELSE ARE OUT OF MIND,
AND ONLY JOY-OF-BATTLE TAKES HIM BY THE THROAT, AND MAKES HIM BLIND,

THROUGH JOY AND BLINDNESS HE SHALL KNOW, NOT CARING MUCH TO KNOW, THAT STILL NOR LEAD NOR STEEL SHALL REACH HIM, SO THAT IT BE NOT THE DESTINED WILL.

CIVIL WAR: FRONT LINE No. 8, November, 2006. Published Monthly except bi-monthly in August, September, October, November and December by MARVEL PUBLISHING, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 417 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10016. © 2006 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. $2.99 per copy in the U.S. and $3.75 in Canada (GST #R127032852) in the direct market and $2.99 per copy in the U.S. and $4.25 in Canada (GST #R127032852) through the newsstand. Canadian Agreement #40668537. **Printed in the USA.** ALAN FINE, President & CEO Of Marvel Toys and Marvel Publishing, Inc. DAVID BOGART, SVP Of Publishing Operations; DAN CARR, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; JUSTIN F. GABRIEL, Managing Editor; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Joe Maumone, Advertising Director, jmaumone@marvel.com or 212-576-6024. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 800-217-9158.

DEADLIEST MAN ALIVE

Oroboros is the undefeated Supreme Grand Master of the Fighting Arts. Oroboros won the World Overall Fighting Arts Championship (Master & Expert Divisions) after defeating the world's top Masters of JUDO, BOXING, WRESTLING, KUNG-FU, KARATE, AIKIDO, etc. in Death Matches. On Aug. 1, 1967, the World Federation of Fighting Arts crowned Oroboros "THE WORLD'S DEADLIEST FIGHTING ARTS CHAMPION AND MASTER."

NOW...
The World's DEADLIEST FIGHTING SECRETS Can Be Yours
. . .
FREE

Digital Comics

Preservation

MAIL GUARANTEED NO RISK COUPON NOW

AN OROBOROS SCAN

ALT.BINARIES.COMICS.DCP